
SECOND SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1882

State of Washington

60th Legislature

2007 Regular Session

By House Committee on Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Wallace, Moeller, Haigh, McDermott, Kagi, Roberts, O'Brien, Kenney, Hurst and Ormsby)

READ FIRST TIME 03/28/07.

1 AN ACT Relating to higher education costs; adding new sections to
2 chapter 28B.15 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 28B.76 RCW;
3 creating new sections; and providing an expiration date.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that access to
6 higher education is of critical importance to the current and future
7 prosperity of the citizens of the state of Washington. However, the
8 legislature further finds that the following three factors are creating
9 barriers to access for students:

10 (a) Tuition increases have varied dramatically over the last
11 decade, making the cost of postsecondary attendance unpredictable for
12 students and families.

13 (b) There are at least thirty separate state and federal programs
14 providing direct financial aid or tax benefits to individuals seeking
15 postsecondary education, in addition to institutional aid, private
16 scholarships, and other programs. The system is complicated and
17 difficult to understand, with the unfortunate effect of discouraging
18 some low-income students from even applying to college. Additionally,

1 some students are not able to access enough financial assistance to
2 make postsecondary education affordable.

3 (c) Students frequently must repeat college-level coursework when
4 transferring from one institution of higher education to another,
5 increasing their financial and time costs.

6 (2) Through implementing of a complementary and coordinated set of
7 policies around tuition, financial aid, and student transitions, the
8 legislature intends to make access to higher education a top priority.

9 **FINANCIAL AID**

10 **PART 1**

11 **STATEWIDE TUITION POLICY**

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 101.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.15
13 RCW to read as follows:

14 TUITION--FUNDING LEVELS--LIMITATIONS. (1) Beginning with the
15 2007-08 academic year and ending with the 2016-17 academic year,
16 tuition fees charged to full-time resident undergraduate students may
17 increase no greater than seven percent over the previous academic year
18 in any institution of higher education. Annual reductions or increases
19 in full-time tuition fees for resident undergraduate students shall be
20 as provided in the omnibus appropriations act, within the seven percent
21 increase limit established in this section. To the extent that state
22 appropriations combined with tuition and fee revenues are insufficient
23 to achieve the total per-student funding goals established in
24 subsection (3) of this section, the legislature may revisit state
25 appropriations, authorized enrollment levels, and changes in tuition
26 fees for any given fiscal year.

27 (2) If in any year, the level of instructional state support per
28 full-time equivalent student at a public four-year institution does not
29 equal or exceed the amount of the previous year's instructional state
30 support adjusted for inflation using the implicit price deflator, the
31 tuition cap may be increased. In this circumstance, the governing
32 board of each impacted institution may elect to increase tuition and
33 fee revenues above the seven percent cap to a level sufficient to cover
34 the amount not received through the state appropriation. Upon meeting

1 the goal established in subsection (3) of this section, this authority
2 is suspended.

3 (3) The state shall adopt as its goal total per-student funding
4 levels, from state appropriations plus tuition and fees, of at least
5 the sixtieth percentile of total per-student funding at similar public
6 institutions of higher education in the global challenge states. The
7 office of financial management shall develop a funding trajectory for
8 each four-year institution of higher education and for the community
9 and technical college system as a whole that when combined with tuition
10 and fees revenue allows the state to achieve its funding goal for each
11 four-year institution and the community and technical college system as
12 a whole no later than fiscal year 2017. The state shall not reduce
13 enrollment levels below fiscal year 2007 budgeted levels in order to
14 improve or alter the per-student funding amount at any four-year
15 institution of higher education or the community and technical college
16 system as a whole. The state recognizes that each four-year
17 institution of higher education and the community and technical college
18 system as a whole have different funding requirements to achieve
19 desired performance levels, and that increases to the total per-student
20 funding amount may need to exceed the minimum funding goal.

21 (4) By September 1st of each year beginning in 2008, the office of
22 financial management shall report to the governor, the higher education
23 coordinating board, and appropriate committees of the legislature with
24 updated estimates of the total per-student funding level that
25 represents the sixtieth percentile of funding for comparable
26 institutions of higher education in the global challenge states, and
27 the progress toward that goal that was made for each of the public
28 institutions of higher education.

29 (5) As used in this section, "global challenge states" are the top
30 performing states on the new economy index published by the progressive
31 policy institute as of the effective date of this section. The new
32 economy index ranks states on indicators of their potential to compete
33 in the new economy. At least once every five years, the office of
34 financial management shall determine if changes to the list of global
35 challenge states are appropriate. The office of financial management
36 shall report its findings to the governor and the legislature.

1 approved by the state treasurer. Disbursements of such funds shall be
2 on authorization of the institute or a duly authorized representative
3 thereof. In order to maintain an effective expenditure and revenue
4 control, such funds are subject in all respects to chapter 43.88 RCW,
5 but no appropriation is required to permit expenditure of such funds.

6 (5) This section expires December 31, 2007.

7 **PART 3**
8 **STUDENT TRANSITIONS**

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 301.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.76
10 RCW to read as follows:

11 (1) The legislature desires to make transitions among high school,
12 two-year, and four-year institutions of higher education through a
13 standard practice, whether through course design, common course
14 numbering, or transfer agreements. The legislature recognizes that
15 significant progress has been accomplished in this area through a joint
16 access oversight group. However, challenges that still exist lead to
17 unnecessary time and money costs for students. The higher education
18 coordinating board, in collaboration with the state board for community
19 and technical colleges and the council of presidents, shall convene a
20 work group that includes representatives of the public baccalaureate
21 institutions and the community and technical colleges. The work group
22 may include representatives from independent four-year institutions as
23 appropriate. The work group shall be responsible for identifying and
24 examining:

25 (a) The criteria and circumstances under which courses that
26 transfer within an associate degree program do and do not transfer
27 separately from a degree;

28 (b) A comprehensive list of additional major-related program
29 agreements that are needed to best prepare transfer students for
30 specific baccalaureate majors;

31 (c) The current availability of baccalaureate degree programs into
32 which associate of applied science technical degrees transfer, and a
33 list of those to be considered in the future; and

34 (d) The transferability of advanced placement courses, and other
35 college-level and dual credit coursework taken during high school.

